

AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification by marked up replacement paragraph(s) as follows.

Please replace paragraph [28] on page 10 with the following:

-- [28] As customers 99 access the Interact web site via computer devices 99 executing a web-browser (e.g., preferably including Netscape or Internet Explorer v4.0 or higher), they may first authenticate themselves by entering their User ID and password. E-billing system authorizations are based on customer profile information maintained by the system and an Interact Universal Authentication ("UA") system which implements a UA server 145 (Figure 1) for providing a real-time interface with the e-Billing system 100. ~~The User Authentication system process is described in greater detail in commonly owned, co-pending U.S. Patent Application U.S.S.N. 00/000,000 (COS 99-027, Attorney Docket 11042y) entitled UNIVERSAL AUTHENTICATION FOR COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK MANAGEMENT, the disclosure of which is incorporated herein by referenced thereto.~~ After successful log-in and access to the e-billing system, the HTML web server receives a customer request and passes it to the web application, which in turn generates a request to the interface. The interface receives the request, processes the authentication against the enrollment store, and returns a response to the web application. The web application generates the resulting HTML using the pre-built templates and serves the response to the customer. This process is essentially the same for all requests, whether they be for authentication, presentment of invoice summary, invoice detail including applicable EPD discount, or otherwise. However, as requests for invoice data are processed, the content is instantiated from the database 210 by the Interface. --